

PROPOSAL FOR HUMAN RELATIONS COURSE
TO
LEWISTOWN HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

Each part of this proposal needs to be examined and final decisions made.

I - TIME - Late May and early June - day of week to be determined.

Four sessions over four consecutive weeks.

7:45 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

II - PLACE - At one of the schools. The need is for a large meeting room and 4-5 small discussion rooms.

III - SPONSORSHIP - Human Relations Council inviting community organizations, churches and schools to be listed on program announcements as cooperating agencies.

IV - NUMBER OF COURSE

Limited to 50 persons, living in the community, who have the interest. It should be explicit that registration means attendance at all sessions, and that it is voluntary.

Teams (2-4) from organizations are useful in that persons can be supportive to each other both at and after the course.

There is no good reason why some selective recruiting, i.e. encouraging certain key individuals to attend, could or should not be carried out.

V - ESTIMATED TIME SCHEDULE FOR EACH SESSION.

- 7:45 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Presentation of topic for the evening in lecture form.
- 8:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Question and answer period.
- 8:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. Small discussion groups with discussion leader, recorder and resource person.
- 9:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Summary of evening discussion.

VI - COURSE OUTLINE

Session I -

"The nature of Prejudice and Discrimination" (titles for sessions are descriptive of content only. Other words and phrases meaning the same can be used for final program)

Speaker - Dr. Harold A. Lott
Commission on Labor-Management
National Conference of Christians and Jews
1702 Shephard N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Alternates:

Dr. Ira de A. Reid
Professor of Sociology
Haverford College
Haverford, Pa.

What are the psychological and sociological basis for behavior and attitudes of both majority and minority group members? What are their group characteristics? What role does environment or heredity play? What is the effect of social class? Do we learn or inherit prejudices,

are all prejudices negative? What is the extent of discrimination and how does it operate? Has there been progress in our minority-majority relations, where, why and how - etc.

Session II -

"Where Shall We Live"

Speaker - Mrs. Frances Levenson, Director
National Committee Against
Discrimination in Housing
426 W. 58th St.,
New York City, 19

This session will deal with the facts and fallacies about integrated housing. Do property values decline. Why do Negroes want to buy in white neighborhoods. Will integration deteriorate the community physically or otherwise. Are there successful experiences of housing integration. Where one Negro family buys will others flock in. What is the cause and effect of panic selling - etc.

Session III -

"The Organization of the American Suburban Community"

Speaker - Dr. Dan Dodson, Director
Center for Human Relations Studies
New York University
Washington Square,
New York City, 3.

Perhaps to best describe this lecture we should call it an object lesson in assessing the "climate" of a community. What are the roles and functions of institutions (churches, schools, governments) in intergroup relationships. How can tension and conflict problems be identified. What factors are present when a community lives in harmony as outlined in paragraph one of the Council's objectives (meeting of April 29). What

responsibilities, stemming from traditional or historical roles, can each institution be expected to carry.

Session IV -

"The Dynamics in Community Leadership"

Speaker - Prof. Neil Brown
Graduate School of Social Work
Rutgers, The State University
New Brunswick, New Jersey

This session can be arranged to serve different purposes, depending upon the judgment of Council members or the way the first three sessions have gone.

1. It can be a lecture on the principals of group operation and programs with demonstrations of role playing, rumor clinics, perceptions, or
2. It can be a practical lecture on programs which are useful in creating a community climate which the Council strives for as its objective, or
3. It can be a combination of 1 and 2 above.

For each discussion group we need a resource person, one who has a competence in this area based on study, training and experience.

(It might be possible to provide a level of person to person contact, probably never available before.)
Recommendations: To substitute guest speakers, two of the lecturers chosen were Margolis, and Mrs. Lett and Brown.)

1. Mr. Dan S. Anthony
Mayor's Commission on Group Relations
City Hall, Newark, N.J.
2. Dr. Leon Wolcott
Trenton State Teachers College
Trenton, New Jersey
3. Mrs. Florence Ackerman
Plainfield Public Schools
Plainfield, New Jersey

4. Mr. Edward Rutledge, Housing Director
State Commission Against Discrimination
270 Broadway
New York City, 7,
5. Mr. Richard Taylor
American Friends Service Committee
Philadelphia, Pa.

VII - Things which need to be done:

A. For the Sessions:

1. Select a chairman for each session to introduce the speaker, to describe, briefly, the plans for the evening, to conduct the Summary Sessions.
2. Select discussion leaders and recorders.

B. Approve a budget.

Memoranda for Speakers	\$250.00
Memoranda for Resource persons (4 sessions for each person)	250.00
Expenses for Speakers and Resource persons	225.00
Materials for participants	50.00
Printing and mimeographing	75.00
Total	<u>\$850.00</u>

C. Determine methods for publicizing the Course and for enrolling members.

If the Council wishes to go beyond 50 enrollees we need only to expand the number of discussion groups and resource persons.

D. Establish a committee which will carry on the tasks which need

to be arranged at the name of the Course.

I hope each person who reads this will have critical and thoughtful questions and comments. These can be received by our discussion on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. in the usual room for Council meetings.

PROPOSED BY:

Theron A. Johnson

May 1, 1960